

short time to imported oil-producing plants. I shall give the result as far as I was enabled to ascertain them.

Rue yields about 10 ozs. of oil from 100 lbs., Rosemary also yielded a large amount.

I obtained oil of a fine and beautiful aroma from many descriptions of geranium, but from the small amount of material within my reach I was unable to arrive at accurate conclusions.

Lavender gives half an ounce of oil from one pound of the spikes. Its aroma placed it in the medium class. I consider it worth in England 16s. per lb. This oil was obtained from plants on which no labour had been bestowed, and the soil on which they grew was poor and sandy.

There can be no doubt that fields of true peppermint, lavender, roses, and such plants, would prove highly remunerative. The results of all our investigations combine to establish the correctness of this assertion.

A market is always open for these productions, so that any quantity will find a ready sale.

I feel convinced therefore that a field is now opened up in this colony for the cultivation of such plants, and that this whole subject is well worthy the attention of the cultivators of the soil. And I am also convinced that the facts here stated ought to induce the Legislature to direct their attention more than ever to the enactment of such laws as shall tend to develop the resources of the colony.

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ART. XVII.—*On Kerosene.* By the Hon. JOHN MACADAM, M.D., &c.

[Abstract of Paper, the Original read 8th September, 1862.]

The test of safety for kerosene is considered to be the temperature at which it takes fire permanently; that is, not when it emits a flash of flame, which, after flickering, is extinguished, but that when fired, it continues to burn until the portion tested is consumed.

The highest authorities have fixed this point of temperature at 130° Far. That any kerosene which ignites at a lower temperature than 130° Far. is deemed unsafe, in proportion to the number of degrees less than 130 at which it takes fire.

The test is a very simple one, the kerosene is placed in a small tin or porcelain saucer, this saucer is floated on boiling water,

and the wax taper applied frequently until it permanently ignites the oil; a thermometer placed in the oil will register the point of permanent ignition.

One source of danger arises from carelessly feeding a lamp with oil whilst in a heated state, and another from allowing it to burn down so low that the metal burner becomes heated to such degree that it vapourizes the oil and explosion ensues.

Note.—The original paper was accompanied by tabulated results of tests of various samples of the oil.

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ART. XVIII.—*On the Unexplored Districts of Victoria.*  
By R. BROUGH SMYTH, Esq., F.G.S. Lon.

[Read 8th September, 1862.]

The remarks I intend to make to-night are rather suggestive than otherwise. There are some districts of the colony wholly unexplored, and it is to these principally that I would wish to direct the attention of the members of this Society. You are aware that the operations of the gold miner have been confined almost exclusively to that large area of the colony which is occupied by rocks,—sandstones, schists, and clay-slates,—belonging to the silurian formation. From the modes of occurrence of gold in alluvia and quartz lodes, easily found and as easily wrought, the miners have not generally sought to explore the deeper tertiaries and the plains covered with basalt, which, I believe, conceal as rich stores of gold as have been found at Castlemaine or Sandhurst. In addition to the auriferous tracts concealed by rocks not older than the newer tertiaries, there are vast areas of silurian rocks wholly unexplored. I may instance the Delatite or Devil's River, a tributary of the Goulburn, which has been only partially examined by an exploring party sent out by the Prospecting Board. That party found rocks exactly similar to those occurring at Jamieson, and at the sources of the Howqua; but owing to the nature of the country, which is described as precipitous, and mostly covered with a dense scrub, they were unable to penetrate further than Emu Creek. This river (the Delatite), takes its rise some thirty or forty miles to the eastward, and as all the creeks on the opposite side of the ranges flowing to the